

FREDERICK COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

May 27, 2014

MINUTES

The May 27, 2014 meeting of the Frederick County Human Relations Commission met in the 3rd floor conference room at Winchester Hall, 12 E. Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701

I. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Angela Spencer at 7:00pm.
An invitation to recite the Pledge of Allegiance was given.

II. The following members were present at the meeting:
Angela Spencer, Tonya Amedon, Melissa Meath, Annette Breiling ,Lisa Clark ,David Kaye, Oladimeji Ibraheem, Francisco Alves, Irene Packer-Halsey, Mari Lee, Georgia Anne McCauley, and Felicia Turner

The following members were absent:
Jack Thomas, Kavonte Duckett, Adeyemi Adeoye

The following members of the public were present at the meeting:
Chief Thomas Ledwell, FPD, Michele Bowman, FPD, Anastasia Rosen-Jones, Amanda Fleet

III. The April 29, 2014 meeting minutes had 2 corrections noted: Page 2 – Discriminatory Language. The IRC was put in place of GRC. Page 4 – Board of Realtors to talk about a partnership regarding homeless was changed to Assoc of Realtors (FCAR) regarding Fair Housing. The motion to accept with the changes was made by Annette Breiling with a second by Irene Packer-Halsey. The vote was unanimous.

IV. Public comments

Angela asked that everyone take a moment of silence for Memorial Day.

Michele Bowman from the Frederick City Police Department spoke to the group about the NAC's in the city. You are automatically a member of the NAC in which you live. Even if you do not live in the City or a certain NAC area you are welcome to attend the meetings. More information about the NAC areas and meeting locations and times are on the City's website:

<http://www.cityoffrederick.com/index.aspx?NID=316>

V. Officer Reports

a. Executive Committee

The following members will be recommended to the BOCC to serve another term on the HRC: Tonya Amedon, Lisa Clark, Felicia Turner, Annette Breiling and David Kaye. A motion was made by Melissa Meath and seconded by Mari Lee. The vote was unanimous.

HRC Elections – The following slate of candidates was presented by the Nominating Committee.

Chair – Angela Spencer

Vice Chair – Tonya Amedon

Treasurer - Mari Lee

Parliamentarian - David Kaye and Georgia Anne McCauley

Member at Large – Melissa Meath

The slate was unanimously approved as presented with a motion from Lisa Clark and a second from Annette Breiling.

b. Treasurer's report

The report was given by Miles Ward. Funds are available in the amount of \$2,662.28.

A signup sheet for polo shirt sizes was passed around to the members. They will be purchased for members to wear at events to present a professional and uniformed group.

HRC Business cards are also being purchased for the members.

The display board that was created for the Office for Children and Families was shown to the group as a possible board to be customized for the HRC. It was suggested that it be considered to have multi language panels.

Another suggestion for purchases was a table skirt with the HRC logo on it. Lisa Clark will look into the cost.

c. Community Awareness

The first planning meeting for the 2015 Pangea Festival will be held June 4, 2014 at Fajita Grande at 5:30 pm. Annette Breiling, Tonya Amedon and Mari Lee will attend the meeting on behalf of the HRC.

d. The advertising policy was reviewed again and was unanimously approved by the HRC members present with one change. (#6 the word behavior will be changed to language) A motion was made by Melissa Meath and the second by Lisa Clark.

e. It was recommended that the HRC have a photo release form available for photos taken at events. Irene will bring a sample of one to be reviewed at the next meeting.

VI. Committee Reports

a. Community Relations Committee

- Naturalization Ceremony Tuscarora High School – October 4, 2014 - Lisa Clark will schedule a meeting within the next 2 weeks with the committee to discuss the event.
- National Night Out will be held August 5, there will be activities in several locations, when the information becomes available it will be given to the HRC members for participation.

b. Government Relations Committee

No report

c. Internal Relations Committee

- David Kaye reported that he met with FCAR. They are excited about teaming up with the HRC for the Fair Housing 2015 event. They are applying for a grant to provide food and other items related to the event. Irene mentioned that possibly the Housing Authority, the National Caucus and Center on Black Aging, Inc., and the National Hispanic Housing Council might be willing to partner as well.

VII. Old business

- The Bourne Building Dedication was held May 22 and was well attended. Dr. Borne was the 1st African American Physician in Frederick. The facility will now house Public Works and Parks and Recreation.
- The HRC had a table at the Asian Heritage Celebration on May 25. According to the Frederick News Post over 1000 people attended the event.
- Everyone who had the opportunity to attend the Detention Center tour was impressed by the facility and the manner in which it is run.
- Pat Fleet attended the Governor's Conference on Human Trafficking on May 19th. It was a very informative conference and great resource information was received. Miles will send a copy of the handout to the HRC members.
- Angela Spencer and Georgia Anne McCauley attended the COVE Hate Crimes Summit on May 6. It left a lasting impression on both attendees. Angela stated she would like the HRC to educate the public about how to respond in situations particularly where schools are involved. She will be meeting with Chief Ledwell in the future to discuss that possibility. Angela also mentioned 2 free apps that are available on smart phones. "Live Safe" and "Walk Safe".

IX. HRD Directors Report – Miles Ward

- Miles urged everyone to look at the e-mail he forwarded to all HRC members regarding Anastasia Rosen-Jones introducing herself.

- The county is working on updating the HRC member roster it was sent to the members by e-mail. Miles asked that everyone get back to him by tomorrow with corrections so it can be submitted.
- Miles thanked the HRC members for their great attendance both at meeting and events.
- Miles has contacted Mr. Willie Mahone at the request of the HRC and invited him to attend an upcoming HRC meeting. He responded favorably and was sent an invitation letter with dates through the end of the year. This is follow up from the Annual Report that was presented at the May meeting of the HRC.
- June 7 during First Saturday there will be a celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Monocacy.

X. Announcements

Angela Spencer reported that Asbury United Methodist Church will be sponsoring a Community Block Party on June 14th.

The HRC members were reminded that if they are contacted by anyone with discrimination situations, to refer them to Miles.

Round Table

- Angela Spencer reported that she was a guest speaker at North Frederick Elementary School. She presented a program called Challenges, Choices and Consequences to 5th graders.
- Melissa Meath thanked Angela Spencer for arranging the great tour at the Detention Center.
- Oladimeji Ibraheem reported that the Detention Center visit left him with a different perspective.
- Tonya Amedon reported that she was impressed with the Jail visit. It was extremely clean and the employees were very friendly. She is glad to be a part of this community.
- Angela Spencer offered thanks to Chief Ledwell. She has attended the Citizens Policy Academy and appreciates the work the police do in the community.
- Mari Lee was appointed to the Commission on Disabilities and is glad to be a part of both commissions. She also attended the Citizens Police Academy and appreciates all of the work the police do.
- Francisco Alves reported that the Detention Center tour was very informative and he was impressed by the officers. He feels very safe and every time he sees an officer he is grateful. The Asian Heritage festival made him very happy and he was proud to be there.
- David Kaye reported he enjoyed the tour; it was impressive. He attended the Memorial Day event at the Veterans wall in DC.
- Irene Packer Halsey reported she also went through the Citizens Police Academy. She also called attention to the fact that the 65th Infantry Regiment will receive the Congressional Gold Medal. Nicknamed "The Borinqueneers" from the original name of

the island (Borinquen), it is a Puerto Rican regiment of the United States Army that has participated in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, and other conflicts.

- Lisa Clark enjoyed the events and offered her thanks to the police.
- Annette Breiling celebrated the homeless shelter being opened year round. It is an important step forward. The detention center visit was educational.
- Felicia Turner had just attended her 2nd meeting this evening; the first was of the Women's Health Advisory Committee and its message was "Listen to the rhythm of your heart". A new grant "Bridges into the Community" has been received. The duffle bag project was a success.

XI. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm